

UNSOLD PUBLIC LANDS NEAR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A report from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, relative to the unsold lands near the Mississippi river; in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 2d of January last.

FEBRUARY 1, 1847.

Read, and laid upon the table.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 28, 1847.*

SIR: I have the honor, herewith, to transmit a report from the acting Commissioner of the General Land Office, under date of the 27th instant, in compliance with a resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 2d instant, in the following terms, viz: "*Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury communicate to this House, as near as may be, the quantity of unsold public lands within thirty miles of the Mississippi river, on each side thereof, from the southern extremity of the Lower rapids, near the mouth of the Des Moines river, to the mouth of the St. Peter's; how long said lands have been in market, together with the annual and average amount of the net proceeds of the same for the last five years.*"

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. WALKER,

Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. JOHN W. DAVIS,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, *January 27, 1847.*

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 8th instant, endorsed on the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 2d instant, I have the honor to state, that "*within thirty miles of the Mississippi river, on each side thereof, from the southern extremity of the Lower rapids, near the mouth of the Des Moines river, to the mouth of the St. Peter's,*" the quantity of unsold public land is estimated to be 11,954,135 acres.

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Of these lands, 6,160,000 acres have not been surveyed; and 482,007 acres have not been offered for sale.

Of those which have been offered—

83,694 acres have been in market 18 years.

422,213	do	do	do	13	"
519,563	do	do	do	12	"
578,085	do	do	do	8	"
52,869	do	do	do	7	"
1,482,693	do	do	do	6	"
213,393	do	do	do	5	"
352,903	do	do	do	4	"
902,173	do	do	do	3	"
58,217	do	do	do	2	"
646,325	do	do	do	1	"

The net revenue from these offered lands—

For the year 1842 was 89,152 dollars.

For the year 1843 was 97,780 dollars.

For the year 1844 was 130,206 dollars.

For the year 1845 was 193,465 dollars.

For the year 1846 was 172,118 dollars.

And the average net proceeds per annum for those years was 136,544 dollars. The resolution is herewith returned.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. PIPER,
Acting Commissioner.

Hon. R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.